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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD
AND FORDINGBRIDGE




ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health of the
RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1971



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD
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BY

D. J. N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

AND

R. A. UPSTONE, CERT. R.S.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD
AND FORDINGBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1971

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DECEMBER, 1971

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

D. J. N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Also Medical Officer of Health of Boroughs of Christchurch and Lymington,,
 and a Senior Medical Officer in the Health Department of Hampshire County Council.*

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K. C. BROOKE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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D. ROE, M.A.P.H.I.

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Year 1971

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

I submit for your information and consideration my twenty-fifth Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your District.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge lies in the south-west corner of Hampshire bordered in the north by Wiltshire, on the west by Dorset and Bournemouth, to the south by Christchurch and on the east by the New Forest, of which part lies within the District. It is traversed from north to south by the Hampshire Avon and includes a very varied topography, from chalk downs to heaths, from forests to fertile fields and the sterile wastes of worked out gravel pits. There are two main towns and numerous villages of varying population and character.

The District is divided into sixteen parishes and covers an area of 90,145 acres. It is a favourite retirement area and the progressively rising population has now reached 31,620, an increase of 48% in the past 25 years.

Employment is afforded in agriculture, aircraft construction, motor and light engineering, and the gravel industry.

At the time of writing it appears that local government reorganisation will result in the District being split between several authorities with the major part remaining in Hampshire and other areas passing into Dorset. A final decision has yet to be announced.

RAINFALL FOR 1971:

The following figures have been provided by the courtesy of the Meteorological Officer at Hurn Airport.

	mm.	ins.		mm.	ins.
January . .	128.4	5.05	July . .	11.7	0.46
February . .	22.5	0.89	August . .	53.0	2.09
March . .	65.7	2.59	September . .	8.6	0.34
April . .	55.3	2.18	October . .	44.5	1.75
May . .	27.5	1.08	November . .	57.7	2.27
June . .	131.2	5.16	December . .	32.1	1.26
TOTALS: 638.2 mm. 25.12 ins.					

GENERAL STATISTICS:

AREA: 90,145 acres.

POPULATION: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1971: 31,620.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 12,171.

RATEABLE VALUE AT 1.4.72: £1,418,387.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE: £13,550.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1971:

(as supplied by the Registrar-General)

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Ringwood & Fordingbridge Rural District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
LIVE BIRTHS:					
Total . . .	417	201	216		
Legitimate . . .	386	187	199		
Illegitimate . . .	31	14	17		
LIVE BIRTH RATE: (Area Comparability Factor 1.21)					
Per 1,000 population				13.2	16.0
Local adjusted rate				16.0	
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate				1.00	1.00
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS:					
Per cent of total live births				7.0	8.0
STILL BIRTHS:					
Total	5	2	3		
Legitimate	5	2	3		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		
STILL BIRTH RATE:					
Per 1,000 total (live and still) births				12.0	12.0
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 422.					
INFANT DEATHS:					
<i>Deaths under one year of age</i>					
Total	7	3	4		
Legitimate	7	3	4		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		
<i>Deaths under four weeks of age</i>					
Total	4	1	3		
Legitimate	4	1	3		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		
<i>Deaths under one week of age</i>					
Total	3	—	3		
Legitimate	3	—	3		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		

<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Ringwood & Fordingbridge Rural District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
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INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

Deaths under one year

Per 1,000 live births:	Total	.	.	.	17.0	18.0
Per 1,000 live births:	Legitimate	.	.	.	18.0	17.0
Per 1,000 live births:	Illegitimate	.	.	.	—	24.0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Deaths under four weeks

Per 1,000 live births	10.0	12.0
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EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Deaths under one week

Per 1,000 live births	7.0	10.0
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PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE:

Still births and deaths under one week combined

Per 1,000 total (live and still) births	19.0	22.0
---	---	---	---	---	------	------

MATERNAL DEATHS:

(Including abortion) Nil

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:

Per 1,000 total (live and still) births . . . Nil 0.17

DEATHS: 528 251 277

DEATH RATE: (Area Comparability Factor 0.56)

Per 1,000 population	.	.	.	.	16.7	11.6
Local adjusted rate	.	.	.	.	9.4	
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.	.	.	.	0.81	1.00

SPECIAL CAUSES:

Death rate per 1,000 population

Tuberculosis	.	.	.	.	—	0.03
Cancer (lung and bronchus)	.	.	.	.	0.66	0.63
Cancer (all causes)	.	.	.	.	2.78	2.39

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS:

(Since the District was formed in 1932)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Ringwood and Fordingbridge</i>			<i>England and Wales</i>		
		<i>I.M.R.</i>	<i>B.R.</i>	<i>D.R.</i>	<i>I.M.R.</i>	<i>B.R.</i>	<i>D.R.</i>
1932	18,400	60	15.4	12.6	65	15.3	12.0
1937	18,690	23	13.9	11.8	58	14.9	12.4
1942	20,640	19	17.6	14.9	49	15.8	11.6
1947	21,360	36	22.1	13.6	41	20.5	12.0
1952	24,060	28	16.2	12.4	27.6	15.3	11.3
1957	25,180	30	14.6	18.9	23.0	16.1	11.5
1962	27,380	29	15.0	16.1	21.4	18.0	11.9
1967	29,880	10.6	12.6	15.4	18.3	17.2	11.2
1968	30,420	21.9	13.5	16.3	18.0	16.9	11.9
1969	30,750	10.9	12.0	18.3	18.	16.3	11.9
1970	30,920	14.0	11.3	16.8	18.	16.0	11.7
1971	31,620	16.8	13.2	16.7	18.	16.0	11.6

CAUSES OF DEATH:

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
B 17	Syphilis and its Sequelae	1	—
B 18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—
B 19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	2
B 19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	12
B 19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	20	1
B 19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	7
B 19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1
B 19 (10)	Leukaemia	4	—
B 19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	14	18
B 20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	—
B 21	Diabetes Mellitus	—	2
B 22	Avitaminoses, etc.	—	1
B 46 (1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	—
B 24	Meningitis	—	1
B 46 (4)	Multiple Sclerosis	—	2
B 46 (5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	6	1
B 26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	1
B 27	Hypertensive Disease	3	4
B 28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	72	69
B 29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	8	10
B 30	Cerebrovascular Disease	43	91
B 46 (6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	17	16
B 32	Pneumonia	11	16
B 33	Bronchitis and Emphysema	16	5
B 33 (2)	Asthma	1	1
B 46 (7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—
B 34	Peptic Ulcer	1	—
B 36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	—
B 37	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
B 46 (8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	2
B 38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—
B 39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
B 46 (9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	1
B 46 (11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	3
B 42	Congenital Anomalies	1	1
B 43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	—	2
B 45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	2	3
BE 47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	3
BE 48	All other accidents	4	—
BE 49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted injuries	2	1
Total All Causes		251	277

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

<i>Notification</i>	<i>Number</i>
Measles	40
Whooping Cough	6
Infective Jaundice	13
Scarlet Fever	1
Dysentery	1

TUBERCULOSIS:

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
No. on Register at 31.12.71	129	92	44	19	284
No. of new notifications .	3	2	—	1	6
Transfers from other areas .	1	2	—	—	3
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—

LUNG CANCER:

21 inhabitants of the District died of lung cancer during the year, one less than the previous year. However, there has now been an average of 25 deaths per annum over the past five years from this cigarette induced cancer, as compared with 15.2 per annum over the previous five. There are no grounds for complacency, and indeed many for alarm at the rising death rate.

The national death rate continues its progressive rise. There were 30,746 deaths from lung cancer in 1971, 528 more than in the previous year. The World Health Organisation publication "Smoking and Health" has this to say "Cigarette smokers, taken as a whole, have an approximately 30-80 per cent greater mortality than non-smokers. The excess mortality increases with increasing cigarette consumption (and is) proportionately greater at ages 45-54 than at younger or older ages".

How much longer can the population at large remain impervious to the stark reality of these figures?

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:

1. *Laboratory Facilities*

The area is served by two constituent laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service. One is at Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, under the direction of Dr. P. J. Wormald and the other, in Poole General Hospital, was until this year directed by Dr. G. J. G. King. Dr. King retired in August and I wish to pay a warm tribute to the invaluable advice and assistance which he gave to us over many years and to his unfailing courtesy. Dr. King has been succeeded at Poole by Dr. W. L. Hooper already on the staff of the laboratory.

Both Directors are available as consultants in field work.

2. *Hospitals*

Hospital facilities are provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

Fordingbridge Cottage Hospital

St. Leonards Hospital

Fordingbridge Infirmary

) aged and chronic sick
)

The majority of patients requiring hospital treatment go to Bournemouth or Salisbury.

Cases of infectious disease go to the infectious disease unit at Poole General Hospital.

3. *Tuberculosis*

The clinic facilities for the treatment, prevention, and after-care of this infection are provided jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council. Cases south of Fordingbridge come under the care of the Chest Physician at Christchurch, and those in the northern part of the area under the Chest Physician at Salisbury. Chest Physicians hold joint appointments, and Health Visitors are provided by the County Council.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

1. *Ambulance Service*

The area Ambulance Service is provided from a main station at Lymington with sub-stations at Ringwood and Christchurch. All ambulances are fitted with wireless and are controlled from a central control at Winchester, to which all requests for ambulance services must be directed.

The Central Ambulance Control,
Queen's Road,
Winchester.

Telephone: Winchester 61644

Emergency 999 calls are routed direct to central control.

2. *Nursing Service*

Area Nursing Officer: —Miss J. E. Jenner, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst.

Details of Nurses and their areas: —

NORTHERN NURSING AREA

<i>District Served</i>	<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Service</i>
Attached to Drs. Straton, Vickery, Waldman and Hensel	Miss I. C. Durley, Nurse's House, Whitsbury Road, Fordingbridge. Tel: F'bridge 3185	NURSE/MIDWIFE & HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Straton, Vickery, Waldman and Hensel	Miss H. M. Casey, 2, Lower Bartons, Fordingbridge. Tel: F'bridge 2157	NURSE/MIDWIFE & HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Straton, Vickery, Waldman and Hensel	Mrs. A. J. Bolton, "Brentwood", Marle Lane, Sandleheath, Fordingbridge. Tel: F'bridge 3345	NURSE/MIDWIFE & HEALTH VISITOR

SOUTHERN NURSING AREA

<i>District Served</i>	<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Service</i>
Ringwood part, Hightown, Moortown, Kingston, Bisterne, Crow, Foulford.	Miss S. M. Tappenden, 12, Winston Way, Ringwood. Tel: Ringwood 3992	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Ringwood part, Blashford, Ellingham, Ibsley, Mockbeggar, Linwood, Rockford, Poulner, Highwood, Linford, Shobley.	Mrs. J. Gomer, Hornbeams, 9, Forestside Gdns, Ringwood. Tel: Ringwood 4314	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Ringwood part, St. Leonards, St. Ives, Ashley, Harefield, Somerley, Waltham Estate, Nea Heath.	Miss A. M. Hill, Ferndale, St. Ives, Ringwood. Tel: Ringwood 3196	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Relief work in Ringwood and Fordingbridge area	Mrs. J. L. Street, The Bungalow, Hangersley, Ringwood. Tel: Ringwood 3928	RELIEF DISTRICT NURSE/MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Howard and Wood, also unattached work in Burley and Brangore.	Mrs. A. M. Powell, Sandy Shoot Cottage, Honey Lane, Burley, Tel: Burley 3385	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE AND HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Howard and Wood in Brangore, Sopley, Ripley, Avon, Godwinscroft, Waterditch, Neacroft, Burton, Winkton. Also unattached work in these areas.	Mrs. Brixey, 35, Woodlinken Close, Verwood, Dorset. Tel: Verwood 2739	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE AND HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Downes and Matthes in Ringwood, St. Leonards, St. Ives. Unattached in Ringwood.	Miss J. Mulligan, 48, Oaks Drive, St. Leonards, Ringwood. Tel: Ferndown 4837	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Kitchen and Dean in Ringwood, St. Leonards and St. Ives. Unattached in St. Ives area.	Mrs. E. E. Arnold, "Avalon", 74, Manor Road, Verwood, Dorset. Tel: Verwood 2001	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Holman, Withey and Matthews	Mrs. D. N. Tobitt, 12, Lytchett Way, Upton, Poole, Dorset. Tel: Lytchett Minster 3009	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Carr, Wyatt and Scott Jupp. Unattached work in Christchurch west, Hurn, North Kingston, N. Ripley, Bisterne.	Miss D. Hayes, 61, Baring Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. Tel: B'mth 47334	HEALTH VISITOR

3. *Home Help Service*

Now under the Social Services Department.

Home Help Organiser:—

Mrs. E. St. Claire Johnson,
51, Bargates,
Christchurch.
Tel: Christchurch 71626

4. *Child Health Clinics*

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Time</i>
Breamore	Woodgreen Hall	First Thursday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Fordingbridge	Horseport Surgery	First and Third Fridays in month at 2.30 p.m.
Ringwood	Conway Hall	Every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.
St. Leonards	District Hall	Fourth Tuesday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Bransgore	Village Hall	Second and Fourth Fridays in month at 2.30 p.m.
Burley	Myrtle Hall	Second and Fourth Wednesdays in month at 2.30 p.m.

5. *School Health Service*

School medical inspections are carried out periodically by Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

Special clinics are held at the County Council Health Clinic, Christchurch, and at the County Council Dental Clinic in Ringwood.

6. *Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis:*

Treatment is carried out by family doctors and at child health clinics and schools. Most of the primary immunisation is organised and the records maintained by the County computer. Initially the mother's consent to immunisation is obtained by her Health Visitor and thereafter the computer selects children due for each stage of immunisation at the appropriate time, prints an appointment post card and prepares a nominal list for the relevant doctor. Missed appointments are re-invited and completed immunisation records are fed back into the computer. There is good evidence that the process is encouraging a high level of immunisation.

Booster doses at about the age of school entry have been largely organised, and the majority carried out, by your Medical Officer of Health. In future the computer will increasingly undertake the organisation of these doses and it may be that family doctors will undertake a higher proportion than in the past.

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967-64		
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus							
Primary	22	258	72	13	7	—	372
Re-inforcing	—	—	5	7	70	6	88
Diphtheria-Tetanus							
Primary	—	10	—	—	7	11	28
Re-inforcing	—	—	3	—	195	87	285
Poliomyelitis							
Primary	19	270	75	14	11	15	404
Re-inforcing	—	—	9	5	269	79	362

7. Smallpox Vaccination

Primary vaccination in early childhood has been national policy since smallpox vaccination was originally made compulsory in 1853. Since 1948 it has progressively declined until latterly in some areas a relatively small proportion of children have been vaccinated.

In July the Department of Health and Social Security announced that, on the advice of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, vaccination against smallpox need not now be recommended as a routine procedure in early childhood. The Committee reached this conclusion on the grounds that the area of the world in which smallpox exists is steadily diminishing, that the risk to the British public is now less than at any time in the past, and that, though smallpox vaccination is a safe and reliable method of protection, complications occur in a few children and these are now out of proportion to the risk from smallpox in Britain.

Vaccination remains necessary for travellers to and from areas of the world where smallpox is prevalent, and is advisable for hospital doctors, nurses, public health staff and ambulance workers.

Accordingly smallpox vaccination is no longer included on the computer programme and a dramatic fall in vaccination statistics is already occurring.

AGE	Months				Years			Total
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1 yr.	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	—	—	—	5	66	120	18	209
Re-Vaccinations	—	—	—	—	—	5	99	104

8. *Measles Vaccination*

Vaccination has continued at a fairly satisfactory level though a considerable improvement in the response is necessary if this troublesome disease is to be reduced to negligible proportions. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has reviewed all the evidence and has no hesitation in commending vaccination, believing that its adoption as a routine will prevent, on the national scale, up to one hundred deaths a year and much serious illness.

1971	1970	1969	1968	1967-64	Under 16	Total
—	144	126	63	172	17	522

9. *Rubella (German Measles) Vaccination*

Rubella vaccination was offered to 13 year old girls in Secondary Schools towards the end of last year. During this year it has been offered to all girls in Secondary Schools between the ages of 11 and 13. In future 11 year olds will be offered the vaccine each year.

A national surveillance programme is being set up to review the long term effects of the vaccine in reducing the incidence of congenital defects due to Rubella. It is anticipated that a period of at least ten years will be required before significant conclusions can be reached.

350 girls under 16 received Rubella Vaccine during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES:

The District is supplied with water from the mains of the West Hampshire Water Company whose principal works are in the Borough of Christchurch, where the supply is taken from the River Avon. In 1957 the Company developed an additional source from deep boreholes in the chalk at Hale Park and this now supplies most of this District. The borehole water is subjected to super chlorination and is treated to remove excess dissolved carbon dioxide and iron.

Raw and treated waters from the Hale bores are examined twice a week at the Company's own water testing laboratory which is in charge of a qualified chemist and bacteriologist. In addition, periodic samples are sent to an outside laboratory.

During the year 7 samples of water were taken from sources of supply other than the mains; 2 of these were found to be unsatisfactory.

The following list gives the number of premises, in parishes, supplied with main water as noted in the Water Company's records:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Separately assessed domestic dwellings</i>	<i>Approximate population supplied</i>
Martin	126	359
Rockbourne	148	422
Whitsbury	70	199
Breamore	107	305
Hale	190	541
Woodgreen	200	570
Damerham	157	447
Fordingbridge	1999	5697
Harbridge and Ibsley	168	478
Ellingham	204	581
St. Leonards and St. Ives	1525	4346
Ringwood	3792	10807
Burley	599	1707
Hurn	98	279
Sopley	298	849
Christchurch East	1608	4583

A typical result of an examination of a sample of the treated water from the Hale borehole is shown below:

The Counties Public Health Laboratories

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY

Chemical Results in Milligrammes per litre

Appearance: Clear and bright	Turbidity (A.P.H.A. units): Nil
Colour (Hazen): Nil	Odour: Nil
pH: 7.9	Free Carbon Dioxide: 6
Electrical Conductivity: 480	Dissolved Solids dried at 180° C: 330
Reciprocal Megohms per cm. at 20°C	
Chlorine in Chloride: 18	Alkalinity as Ca CO ₃ : 225
Hardness as Ca CO ₃ : Total: 275	Carbonate: 225 Non-carbonate: 50
Nitrogen in Nitrate: 4.8	Nitrogen in Nitrite: absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.00	Permanganate Value: 0.00
	4 hrs. at 27°C
Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.00	Residual Chlorine: 0.1
Metals: Iron: 0.10	Copper, Lead, Manganese: absent
Zinc: 0.05	Fluoride: absent

Bacteriological Results

Number of colonies (	1 day at 37°C	2 days at 37°C	3days at 20-22°C
developing on agar (	5 per ml	8 per ml	4 per ml
Presumptive coliform reaction	Present in — ml.	Absent from 100 ml.	Most probable number 0 per 100 ml.
E. Coli	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	— ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron with a negligible trace of zinc. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

The first stage of the Burley Scheme was completed, and a start made on Stage II. Stage III will follow on.

The sludge digestion heating units at Ringwood were completed but difficulties have been encountered in their operation.

Schemes are in the course of preparation for the Avon Castle area, draining to the Ringwood Works, and for Hale, draining to the Salisbury and Wilton R.D.C. Works at Downton.

Extensions to existing schemes to deal with Godshill, Hangersley and Poulner, and Sopley, are proposed.

MILK AND DAIRIES:

Milk production in the area is supervised by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Retail Distribution is supervised by officers of this Council.

There is no pasteurising plant within the District.

The following table shows the number of registered Dairy Farmers in the District at the end of 1971.

	<i>Registered Producers</i>	<i>"Untreated milk" licence holders</i>
Martin	4	—
Rockbourne	8	1
Whitsbury	2	—
Breamore	10	1
Hale	8	—
Woodgreen	1	—
Damerham	3	—
Fordingbridge	25	1
Harbridge and Ibsley	6	—
Ellingham	4	—
St. Leonards and St. Ives	6	—
Ringwood	18	1
Burley	5	—
Hurn	6	1
Sopley	14	—
Christchurch East	16	—
Totals	136	5

The records again show a reduction in the number of registered producers.

The details have been kindly supplied by the Divisional Executive Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS:

The County Council is the sampling authority and the following report on sampling within this District has been kindly supplied by Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer.

During the year ended 31st March, 1972, 118 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council.

Milk Samples

Eighty-two samples of milk, including twenty-eight of "Channel Islands" were obtained, seven of the latter being below standard. These were procured on separate occasions from the same producer/retailer. A routine sample from a pint bottle of "Channel Islands" milk was deficient of the minimum standard of 4% of fat required for "Channel Islands" milk and two following-up samples showed the milk to be of naturally poor quality. The attention of the producer was drawn to the matter and he was advised that the milk should not be sold as "Channel Islands" milk until an improvement in the quality could be effected. Some few weeks later, four further samples were taken, the milk still being supplied as "Channel Islands". The samples again showed substantial fat deficiencies and on this occasion proceedings were instituted. Fines totalling £15 were imposed, together with an order for the payment of £30 costs.

Miscellaneous Samples

Thirty-six samples of articles other than milk were obtained. These were satisfactory except in two cases in respect of which warnings were issued to the persons responsible. They related to:—

A loaf of bread which was the subject of a consumer complaint alleging mould contamination. Examination of the bread confirmed the reason for the complaint and subsequent inquiries showed the loaf to be old stock. Following full investigations the circumstances did not appear to warrant legal action and the matter was dealt with as indicated.

A sample of pork sausages contained only 58% of meat instead of the minimum of 65% required under the appropriate Regulations. The discrepancy appeared to be due to inadequate mixing of the ingredients and a subsequent check was found to be of required standard.

General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

The systematic survey of food premises continues. One was inspected for the first time and there were 26 re-inspections. The general standard remains satisfactory.

HOUSING:

28 Council Houses were completed, 11 fewer than the previous year, and there was an increase in the waiting list for Council Houses.

There was a considerable increase in the number of private houses constructed.

The systematic survey of unfit houses continues; 59 houses were inspected, 6 unfit houses were demolished and 43 were made fit by formal or informal action.

No. on Housing Waiting List 31.12.71:	433
No of Council Houses completed in 1971:	28
No. of Private Houses completed in 1971:	308

Dwellings administered by the Council at 31.12.71

Permanent Houses: 1500
 Prefabs: 10

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47:

No action was necessary under this Section.

HURN AIRPORT:

The Airport belongs to the County Borough of Bournemouth and the County of Dorset and is controlled by a Joint Committee. It is open daily from 8 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. There are now two scheduled air services but charter flights continue to form the main source of passenger traffic. In addition the Airport is used for flight testing and flying training and there is an important Air Traffic Control School.

During the past year aircraft movements have increased by 10% to 58,160 and passenger traffic by 14% to 85,692.

Dr. Cauchi and myself remain on call for emergency port health duties but were again not required.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS:

The only public swimming bath in the District is the open air pool at Ringwood which is run by the Parish Council and which was fully described in the 1959 report. The water is drawn from the mains and is continuously circulated, filtered and chlorinated.

21 samples from the pool were subjected to laboratory examination with satisfactory results on each occasion.

GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the District was satisfactory throughout the year.

Notification of infectious disease remains low.

The estimated mid-year population rose by 700 to 31,620, a figure based on the preliminary results of the 1971 Census and therefore reasonably accurate.

The birth rate increased, and after making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the population, was on a par with the national rate.

The infant mortality increased slightly, of no significance with such small figures.

Deaths increased slightly but the local adjusted rate was well below the national figure. Deaths exceeded births by 111. 78% of deaths were inhabitants over the age of 65, 52% over 75.

Further progress has been made with slum clearance.

Work is continuing on smaller sewage schemes and plans are being prepared to extend some of the major schemes.

In conclusion, I wish again to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration, my colleagues in other departments for their advice and assistance, and in particular, Mr. Upstone and his Staff for their pleasant co-operation.

D. J. N. McNAB
 Medical Officer of Health

MAY, 1972

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1971 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

*Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act,
1961*

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	140	4	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	146	6	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found: NIL.

PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing Apparel: { Making, etc. Cleaning and Washing	11	—	—	—	—	—
	6	—	—	—	—	—
Plastic Articles	1	—	—	—	—	—
Woodware	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	18	—	—	—	—	—

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD
AND FORDINGBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Surveyor

FOR THE YEAR

1971

May, 1972

Public Offices,
Ringwood.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD
AND FORDINGBRIDGE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report as your Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor dealing with the work carried out by my Department during the year 1971.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing Acts	764
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	390
Moveable Dwellings	98
Gypsy Camps	33
Nuisances and Complaints	794
Clean Air Act	24
Water Supplies	20
Swimming Baths	26
Meat and Other Foods	33
Food and Drugs	735
Milk and Dairies	73
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	69
Factories Act	7
Infectious Diseases	56
Food Poisoning	2
Rodent Control	19
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	21
Pet Animals Act	4
National Assistance Act	2
Civic Amenities Act	93
Litter Act	10
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 47 and 60	13
Sampling, Laboratory visits	21
Ringwood Sewerage	56
Ringwood Sewerage, Capital Works	16
Fordingbridge Sewerage	17
Burton and Winkton Sewerage	12
Bransgore and Thorneyhill Sewerage	21
St. Leonards and St. Ives Sewerage	26
Burley Sewerage, Capital Works	49
Other Sewerage Schemes and Capital Works	8
Cesspool Exhausting	7
Surface Water Drainage	215
Public Cleansing	58
Public Conveniences	126
Other Services administered by the Council	77
Petroleum and Carbide Licensing	376
Building Regulations	7,436
New Street Byelaws	6
Town and Country Planning	997
Dangerous Buildings	26
Housing Sites	32
Housing Estates, Capital Works	102

Housing Estates, Maintenance	.	.	.	.	6,636
Caravan Sites Maintenance	.	.	.	.	173
Housing (Miscellaneous and Financial Provisions) Acts	.	.	.	.	139
Land Charges	.	.	.	.	14
Legal Proceedings	.	.	.	.	55
Diversion of Footpaths	.	.	.	.	4
Miscellaneous and Unclassifiable	.	.	.	.	169
					<hr/> 20,162 <hr/>

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

59 houses were inspected and reports made to the Housing Committee in respect of 9 dwellings unfit for human habitation and not capable of being made fit at reasonable expense. 6 dwellings were demolished and 8 made fit, and a further 35 made fit as a result of informal action.

The Slum Clearance Campaign, as such, commenced in 1956, is virtually completed; fewer dwellings are now allowed to fall into disrepair, and house owners are taking fuller advantage of the various Grants available which are intended to effectively prevent the formation of new areas of unfit housing.

The following summary shows the number of dwellings dealt with by demolition, closing and repair under the Housing and Public Health Acts since the Campaign commenced:—

	1971	1966-1970	1956-1965	Total
1. Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders made	23	55	139	217
2. Houses in respect of which Closing Orders made	—	17	21	38
3. Houses included in Clearance Areas	—	2	26	28
4. Unfit houses closed on Undertakings	—	9	39	48
5. Houses in which Undertakings to Make Fit accepted	—	2	15	17
6. Houses demolished	6	64	113	183
7. Houses made fit by formal action	8	20	48	76
8. Houses made fit by informal action	35	212	445	692

At the end of 1971 Orders and Undertakings were outstanding on 110 dwellings as follows:—

Demolition Orders	.	.	.	.	68	(24 occupied)
Closing Orders	.	.	.	.	19	(1 occupied)
Clearance Orders	.	.	.	.	1	
Undertakings to Make Fit	.	.	.	.	1	
Undertakings to Keep Vacant	.	.	.	.	21	(1 occupied)

One payment in respect of a well-maintained property, which was made the subject of a Demolition Order, was agreed.

7 informal Notices were served.

Two hundred and ninety-four visits and inspections were made.

Qualification Certificates

Part III of the Housing Act, 1969 introduced a new system governing the rents of privately owned dwellings brought up to a satisfactory standard, and no longer are conditions governing rents of such houses attached to Grants, but determined under the Rent Act, 1968.

Controlled tenancies will be converted to regulated tenancies where the qualifying conditions are satisfied, viz. the dwelling must have all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of the occupants and be in a good state of repair having regard to its age, character and locality, disregarding internal decorative repair, and be otherwise fit for human habitation.

Applications for Qualification Certificates may be made alone or in combination with an application for Improvement Grant. In both cases a detailed inspection of the dwelling is necessary in order to determine that the qualifying conditions are satisfied.

Number of applications for Qualification Certificate received	30
Number of Qualification Certificates issued	2
Number of Qualification Certificates refused	8
Number of Certificates of Provisional Approval issued (where application combined with application for Improvement Grant)	11

Sixty-one visits and inspections were made.

Rent Acts

No Statutory action was taken.

Improvements and Conversions

Discretionary Improvement Grants (suspended in January, 1965 as a result of the financial situation) were re-introduced in 1970, subject to a ceiling of £10,000.00; this was twice raised during 1971 to £40,000.00. 16 applications were approved, the total amount of Grant being agreed at £15,143.50. Since the inception of the Scheme in 1951 257 applications have been approved, for a total of £111,784.50. At the 31st December, 1971 the total amount paid in Discretionary Grants, allowing for Grants withdrawn or repaid, amounted to £86,138.00.

Two hundred and thirty-four visits and inspections were made.

42 applications for Standard Grant were approved, the total possible maximum Grant involved being £9,510.00. The maximum Grant payable for any scheme is now £450.00. 489 Standard Grants have been approved since the introduction of the Scheme in June, 1959, for a total maximum of £84,047.00. At the 31st December, 1971 the total amount paid, allowing for Grants withdrawn or repaid, amounted to £55,726.00.

One hundred and seventy-five visits and inspections were made.

CARAVAN SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The following table gives the position at the end of 1971:—

	<i>Number of Sites</i>	<i>Number of Caravans</i>
Sites with permanent Planning permission and site licences for residential caravans (including sites with 100 and 220 caravans)	52	524
Sites with permanent Planning permission and site licences for holiday caravans (including sites with 70, 90, 124 and 265 caravans)	9	682
Sites with temporary Planning permission and site licences	37	43
Sites in use and subject to Enforcement Notices	4	63

Permanent Planning permission was granted in respect of a holiday site for 60 caravans, formerly the subject of an Enforcement Notice, and a licence is being issued. 2 licences were issued, after Planning permission had been granted, for ten-day caravan rallies, one of which was on a licensed holiday site. Applications for site licences were refused in 28 instances where Planning permission had been refused, including 2 for rallies and one for a touring site. 9 decisions are still awaited.

Legal proceedings were authorised in respect of four contraventions of the Act; the authorisations in two cases were later rescinded as the caravans were instantly removed. The other two cases, which both concern gypsies camping on land without the authority of the owners, and where these owners have obtained Court Orders for possession, have not yet been resolved.

There are 8 sites in the District, each limited to a maximum of 5 caravans at any one time, which are covered by Certificates given to Exempted Organisations by the Department of the Environment where the Secretary of State for the Department is satisfied that their objects include, among other things, the encouragement or promotion of recreational activities; under these circumstances the Council is unable to impose any conditions on the site operator, as would be possible if a licence were issued.

The Forestry Commission caravanning and camping site at Holmsley provides accommodation on approximately 35 acres of land for 500 caravans and 250 tents, with a population of 2,000, and is full to capacity in the holiday season.

Eight families are accommodated at The Gravel Pit, Godshill, a site leased by the Council and reserved for the use of gypsies, travelers and the like, and which has 9 standings. Works of re-surfacing, fencing, repairs to the sanitary accommodation and the provision of concrete wheel pads were agreed at a cost of £890.00 and largely completed. A lorry park and scrap metal sorting area has been provided, and one tenant has permission for a logging business.

It has been necessary to modify the layout at the Council's own caravan site at North Poulner Road, Ringwood as the standings were in some cases too small for the larger caravans now being manufactured, some of which are over 40ft. in length and 18ft. in width; a revised rent structure was agreed, relating rents to sizes of caravans.

The original 98 standings have been reduced to 88, each having a separate store and water closet, electricity point and water supply; there is a shop, toilet and laundry block and a resident warden.

Three hundred and ninety visits and inspections were made.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269

2 annual licences to use moveable dwellings on sites with Planning permission or existing use rights were renewed.

There are 6 sites in the District licensed for camping with tents, with a total of 400 tents. Sites cannot be controlled under this Section if used for less than 42 consecutive days or less than 60 days in any one year.

Ninety-eight visits and inspections were made.

REHABILITATION CENTRE, THORNEYHILL

Two further families from the Centre were housed at Burnt House Lane, Bransgore although one subsequently left without notice; the Warden of the Centre felt unable to recommend a further family ready for housing. The Council is committed to housing the remaining families at the Thorneyhill estates.

GYPSY CAMPS

There are now no gypsy sites as such remaining in the District. Since 1949 the Council has housed a total of 67 families of gypsies or those with gypsy antecedents.

Bands of itinerant gypsies camped at three locations; legal proceedings were commenced against the owners of the land, who were in each case unwilling hosts. Legislation exists under the Caravan Sites Act, 1968 by which proceedings may be taken against the occupiers of land rather than the owners thereof, and the Council urged the County Council to make the necessary application to the Department of the Environment for an Order to be made appertaining to this District.

Thirty-three visits and inspections were made.

NUISANCES AND COMPLAINTS

159 complaints were received during the year, which involved a total of seven hundred and ninety-four visits. Details are as follows:

	<i>Complaints received</i>	<i>Number of visits</i>
Insanitary conditions	13	28
Unsatisfactory and insufficient water supplies	1	10
Noise	21	88
Dust, effluvia or smoke	11	84
Fly and other infestations	9	38
Offensive smells	23	91
Offensive and obstructed ditches	1	2
Offensive accumulations	20	68
Cesspools and drains	28	183
Flooding and surface water drainage	1	35
Food	11	57
Milk and dairies	1	3
Animals	5	16
Miscellaneous	14	91

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

2 Statutory Notices were served and complied with as follows: —

<i>Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act, 1969</i>	In respect of dust, etc. at a factory premises;
<i>Public Health Act, 1961, Section 73</i>	In respect of a derelict petroleum storage tank.

Informal action was taken as follows: —

<i>Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39</i>	
Requiring the satisfactory provision of drainage to existing buildings.	4 Notices served. 3 Notices complied with.
<i>Section 50</i>	
Requiring works to remedy leaking or overflowing cesspools.	5 Notices served. 3 Notices complied with.
<i>Section 58</i>	
Requiring works to make safe dangerous buildings or structures.	4 Notices served. 3 Notices complied with.
<i>Section 60</i>	
Requiring means of escape from fire in certain high buildings.	1 outstanding Notice complied with.
<i>Section 89</i>	
Requiring the provision of sanitary accommodation in refreshment houses.	1 outstanding Notice complied with.
<i>Sections 92/93/94</i>	
Requiring the abatement of a nuisance.	25 Notices served. 22 Notices complied with. 6 outstanding Notices complied with.
<i>Section 259</i>	
Requiring the abatement of a nuisance in connection with water-courses, ditches, ponds etc.	1 Notice served. 4 outstanding Notices complied with.
<i>Section 269</i>	
Requiring the removal from land of unauthorised moveable dwellings	2 Notices served.

Thirteen visits and inspections were made, other than those following complaints.

CLEAN AIR ACT

No Statutory action was taken.

2 informal Notices were served, one of which was complied with.
2 outstanding Notices were complied with.

Twenty-four visits and inspections were made.

SWIMMING POOLS

21 samples were collected from the public Swimming Pool at Ringwood, 3 from the Paddling Pool and 2 from the Paddling Pool at Fordingbridge, for bacteriological examination. 26 samples were taken from the Swimming Pool at Avon Tyrrell.

Twenty-six visits and inspections were made.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Thirty-two visits and inspections were made.

Slaughter of Animals Act

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, 5 slaughter-men's licences were renewed. Licensees are permitted to slaughter horses, asses and mules within this local authority's District only, and swine, cattle, sheep and goats in any District.

1 knacker's yard licence was renewed.

One visit of inspection was made.

FOOD AND DRUGS

11 complaints were investigated with a view to prosecution under Section 2 or 113 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. After careful consideration the Council decided that letters couched in strongly warning tones should be sent concerning "Take-and-Bake" rolls and bread, which were mouldy when unwrapped at the time of purchase, but that legal proceedings should be instituted in respect of: —

- A bottle of milk containing broken glass;
- Instant coffee containing broken glass;
- A fruit pie containing mould;
- A steak and kidney pie containing mould;
- A beef sausage containing a piece of metal;
- Chopped ham and pork containing a metal object;
- A loaf of bread containing a cigarette end;
- A bottle of tomato ketchup containing a cigarette end; and
- A chocolate Swiss roll containing a tintack.

Eight of these prosecutions were successful and the defendants fined; the case of the tomato ketchup containing a cigarette end was dismissed by the Magistrates, who were of the opinion that there was insufficient evidence to show by whose action or default the offence had been committed. Two prosecutions commenced in 1970, in respect of corned beef containing a metal object and milk containing broken glass were also successful, and resulted in the defendants being fined.

Food Hygiene

One initial inspection was made and 26 premises re-inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations. 15 informal Notices were served, 11 of which were complied with; 4 outstanding Notices were complied with. No legal proceedings were authorised under either the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970 or the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

4 samples of ice-cream and 7 samples of other foods were taken. Fourteen visits were made.

Seven hundred and nineteen inspections were made in connection with food premises as follows, and one in respect of imported food.

	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>
Food Shops	166	101
Bakehouses	5	7
Restaurant and School Kitchens	104	68
Licensed Premises and Registered Clubs	108	30
Ice Cream Premises (Section 16)	104	34
Preserved Food Premises (Section 16)	20	7
Market Stalls		400
Other Stalls		51
Mobile Vans		12
General		9

Watercress Beds

2 samples were taken.

One inspection was made.

WATER SUPPLIES

7 samples of water were collected for bacteriological examination. 2 of these, from supplies other than the mains, were unsatisfactory, and householders were advised to boil all water used for culinary purposes.

No Statutory action was taken.

Twenty visits and inspections were made.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Legal proceedings were instituted against a national Dairy, operating in this instance from Southampton but delivering milk in this District, in respect of a bottle of milk containing foreign matter; the prosecution was successful and the defendants fined.

Fifteen visits and inspections were made.

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations require the Council to keep a Register of persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor at or from premises within the District and also of premises used as dairies, other than dairy farms.

Number of Registered Distributors 35

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

Milk (Special Designation) (Amendment) Regulations, 1965

The following Dealers' (Pre-Packed Milk) Licences were in force under these Regulations, all expiring on the 31st December, 1975.

Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk 39
 Licences to sell Untreated Milk 7
 Licences to sell Sterilised Milk 13
 Licences to sell Ultra-Heat Treated Milk 16

The Council exercised the functions of the County Council in connection with the issue of licences to dealers.

28 samples of milk, including 4 of goats' milk, and 42 samples of cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for biological examination, phosphatase, methylene blue and turbidity tests.

Fifty-eight visits and inspections were made.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act makes provisions for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in such premises. 297 premises are registered and 1,484 persons employed; 7 Notices were served, making a total of 261 since the commencement of the Act, 251 of which have been complied with.

No Statutory action was taken; 1 non-fatal accident was reported. Sixty-nine visits and inspections were made.

FACTORIES ACT

Number on Register	.	.	.	.	146
Inspections made—Factories	.	.	.	.	6
—Outworkers	.	.	.	.	1

The Council is responsible for enforcing the provisions relating to sanitary conveniences in all factories, and the provisions dealing with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in those factories not using machine power.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

This Act requires scrap metal dealers to be registered with the local authority in whose area they carry on business; registrations are valid for 3 years, and 3 dealers are registered.

Two visits and inspections were made.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Fifty-six visits and inspections were made.

Food Poisoning

Two visits and inspections were made.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The Council was not called upon to take action under this Act.

Two visits were made on behalf of the County Council in respect of accommodation under Part III of the Act.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following summary shows the work carried out during the year.

	<i>Non-agricultural premises</i>	<i>Agricultural premises</i>
Number of properties in the District	13,537	795
Number of properties inspected as a result of notification	523	46
Number of these properties found to be infested by: —		
Rats	141	41
Mice	61	32
Number of properties inspected as a result of survey under the Act	1,569	29
Number of these properties found to be infested by: —		
Rats	144	22
Mice	61	17
Total number of inspections made by Rodent Operative, including re-inspections	2,486	118

Nineteen visits were made by Public Health Inspectors. One informal Notice was served.

The Liaison Committee on Pest Control meets at six-monthly intervals to discuss rodent control problems and pests generally. The area covered by the Committee consists of the districts of Bournemouth County Borough, Christchurch and Lymington Boroughs, and the Rural Districts of the New Forest and Ringwood and Fordingbridge. Agenda items included the removal of the Collared Dove from the protected list, the control of feral pigeons, Weil's Disease, foxes in urban areas and complaints of bats nesting and breeding in the roof spaces of dwellings.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act prohibits the keeping of boarding establishments for cats or dogs except under licence granted by a local authority, to which conditions are attached and for which a fee not exceeding £2.00 per annum may be charged.

13 licences were issued, involving a total of 552 dogs and 184 cats.

3 informal Notices were served.

Twenty-one visits and inspections were made.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

1 licence was issued.

Four visits and inspections were made.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

21 complaints of noise were received, varying from machinery, roadworks, bird-scarers, circular saws and barking dogs to night flying from Hurn Airport. 4 informal Notices were served and complied with, and 2 outstanding Notices complied with.

Eighty-eight visits and inspections were made.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Part of the Council's duty under this Act is to remove and dispose of vehicles believed to have been abandoned and also any other article or thing in the open air believed to have been abandoned. 70 vehicles were dealt with, including a concentration of 47 at Poors Common, Bransgore. The Police Authority successfully prosecuted one offender for abandoning a vehicle.

A Joint Committee of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee and the Development Sub-Committee met to consider the revised Western Downlands Conservation Policy, which mainly concerns the villages of Damerham, Whitsbury, Martin and Rockbourne. The Parish Councils and Whitsbury Parish Meeting were asked for their observations and these, supported by this Council, were forwarded to the County Council.

Ninety-three visits and inspections were made.

LITTER ACT, 1958

No Statutory action was taken. The Police Authority successfully prosecuted one offender under this Act.

Ten visits and inspections were made.

AGRICULTURE (HEALTH AND WELFARE) ACT

This Act provides for securing the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in agriculture and certain other occupations.

No Statutory action was taken.

SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL

Visits made

Ringwood Sewerage	56
Ringwood Sewerage, Capital Works	16
Fordingbridge Sewerage	17
Burton and Winkton Sewerage	12
Bransgore and Thorneyhill Sewerage	21
St. Leonards and St. Ives Sewerage	26
Burley Sewerage, Capital Works	49
Other Sewerage Schemes and Capital Works	8
Cesspool Exhausting	7
Surface Water Drainage	215
Refuse Collection and Disposal	46
Street Cleansing and Litter	12
Public Conveniences	126
Car Parks	13
Street Naming and Numbering	64

SEWERAGE

I prepared for a Special Meeting of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee a comprehensive report containing recommendations for future sewerage schemes in the District, when it was agreed that the scheme already prepared for the Avon Castle, St. Ives Wood and Ashley areas be proceeded with, that upon completion of Stages I and II of the Burley Scheme the remainder of Burley be proceeded with, and that the Consulting Engineers be instructed to submit preliminary reports and estimates of cost for sewerage Sopley, Godshill and Hangersley and Poulner, Ringwood with a view to the schemes being carried out at the same time as major schemes, priorities to be determined in the light of estimated costs. Upon completion of all these projects sewers will be available to 8,408 dwellings and 91 residential caravans, leaving 3,264 dwellings where public sewers will not be available.

Ringwood

During the year 181 premises were connected to the sewer, making a total at 31st December of 3,213, including 661 Council houses.

The recorded flow of sewage passing through the Works during the year was 184,828,000 gallons, the highest daily flow of 1,567,000 being recorded in January and the lowest, 332,000 in April and December. The low rainfall in the year recorded for Ringwood, 24.38", was the lowest since known records were first kept in 1931. This low rainfall was reflected in the flow through the Works being 20,000,000 gallons less than in 1970, when the rainfall was 32.16" for the year. All samples examined were satisfactory.

The sludge digestion heating units at the Disposal Works, estimated to cost £22,107.00 and which were commenced in May, 1970 were commissioned on the 24th March. Difficulties were experienced due to blockages caused by a build-up of rags and polythene in the pumps, and the installation of a macerator unit at a cost of £1,700.00 was agreed. The correct bacterial conditions have not yet been established and it has been necessary to "seed" the undigested sludge with digested sludge purchased from Christchurch Works.

Sewers constructed by private developers to serve phases I and II at Mount Park, Poulner, some 97 dwellings, were satisfactorily completed and taken over as public sewers, as was a length of 515ft. serving 27 dwellings at Woodford Close. It was agreed that the public sewer should be extended at an estimated cost of £72,000.00 to serve 113 dwellings at Hangersley and Poulner, and also that the Consulting Engineers should be asked to investigate the flows and sewer capacities of the main Bickerley sewer and submit a report, bearing in mind recent Planning applications for industrial and residential development in the Bickerley area.

Fordingbridge

During the year 64 premises were connected to the sewer, making a total at 31st December of 1,234, including 275 Council houses.

It was agreed that the public sewer should be extended, at an estimated cost of £95,500.00, to serve 207 dwellings (including 91 residential caravans) at Godshill. A length of sewer of 94ft. laid by a private developer and serving 10 dwellings at Moxhams was satisfactorily completed and taken over as a public sewer.

The Council has already agreed in principle that sewage from Alderholt shall be accepted into the Fordingbridge Disposal Works, and negotiations with the Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District Council continued; it is anticipated the work will commence in 1972.

It is estimated that the flow of sewage passing through the Works was 59,825,000 gallons; the highest daily flow recorded was in June, 380,000 gallons, and the lowest in September, 101,000 gallons. All samples of effluent taken by the Avon and Dorset River Authority were satisfactory.

Burton and Winkton

During the year 66 premises were connected to the sewer, making a total at 31st December of 783, including 179 Council houses.

It was agreed that the sewer should be extended, at an estimated cost of £39,500.00, to serve 85 dwellings at Sopley, sewage to be pumped to the present sewer head at Winkton, and the Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare a detailed scheme.

Bransgore and Thorneyhill

During the year 14 premises were connected to the sewer, making a total at 31st December of 582, including 114 Council houses.

Flow recorded as being pumped to Christchurch Sewage Disposal Works for the 12 months ended 31st December was 27,015,000 gallons; the highest daily flow was recorded in June, 273,000 gallons and the lowest in March, 36,000 gallons.

St. Leonards and St. Ives

During the year 204 premises were connected to the sewer, making a total at 31st December of 1,064, including 33 Council houses; the St. Leonards Hospital made a direct connection to the pumping main.

With the completion of Stages I, IIA and IIB of the Scheme public sewers were made available to 1,131 dwellings. The only unsewered area now remaining from the originally agreed Scheme is the Avon Castle section, which includes Ashley and part of St. Ives Wood estate, and contains some 247 dwellings. A small extension to serve Sunnyside Caravan Park, St. Ives, a residential site of 22 caravans, was agreed, subject to the owner making a contribution of £1,000.00, a tender of £4,980.00 was accepted and work commenced in October. It was also agreed that the sewer in Hurn Lane, part of Stage III of the Scheme, should be laid prior to the main contract as the County Council was proposing to carry out private street works in 1972, a tender of £11,929.13 was accepted and works commenced in November.

Estimated flow discharged to the Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District Council Works at Palmers Ford for the twelve months ended 31st December was 35,778,720 gallons.

Burley

Stage I of this Scheme, for which a tender of £126,717.83 was accepted and where work was commenced in May 1970, was completed apart from the main pumping station; this Stage includes the whole of the pumping main to Ringwood Sewage Disposal Works and will provide a public sewer for some 230 dwellings in and adjacent to the Village. A tender of £135,264.00 was accepted for Stage II, covering some 114 dwellings at Bisterne Close, Burley Lawn, Durmast Corner, Mill Lawn and the Cottessmore House area, and work commenced in November, the contract period being twelve months. It was resolved to invite tenders from a select list of contractors for Stage III, serving some 74 dwellings at Burley Street, and estimated to cost £87,000.00.

Hale

The Consulting Engineers prepared a scheme, estimated to cost £44,600.00, for the sewerage of 97 dwellings plus the school and hall, including 14 existing Council dwellings and 8 proposed, which was forwarded to the Department of the Environment for approval. The County Council gave approval in principle for grant purposes. The sewers will connect to the system of the Salisbury and Wilton Rural District Council and negotiations with that authority are in hand. It is anticipated that tenders will be invited in the summer of 1972.

Exhausting of Cesspools and Septic Tanks

It was agreed that, as from April 1st, the Council would bear 75% of the cost of exhausting cesspools and septic tanks of domestic premises, where public sewers are not available, instead of 50% as heretofore, business premises to remain at the 50% rate. During 1970 occupiers of 1,304 premises took advantage of the scheme, involving 2,960 emptyings, at a cost of £10,268.53 to the Council, not including administrative expenses; this compares with 1,276 premises in 1970 and 1,495 premises in 1969. The Cleansing Service increased their charges by approximately 5% as from November 1st.

SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

Work on the Bransgore Scheme has continued steadily and it is anticipated that it will be completed by the early summer of 1972.

Negotiations with the County Council regarding their contribution to the proposed improvement of Sweatford Water, Fordingbridge, continued; the Avon and Dorset River Authority has produced a scheme estimated to cost £6,500.00, which this Council has approved in principle.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council provides a weekly kerbside collection of refuse for all premises in the District; dustbins are collected from within the curtilage of premises where the occupant produces a doctor's certificate of incapacity.

77,454 cubic yards of refuse was collected throughout the District and disposed of at the Dump at Verwood Road, Somerley; 71,117 cubic yards was collected in 1970. The refuse collection vehicles covered a total mileage of 58,198 during the year, compared with 53,676 in 1970.

The Working Party on Refuse Disposal in the area of south east Dorset, Bournemouth and south west Hampshire, of which I was a member, published its final Report; the Council objected to the recommendations which it contained (from which I had dissociated myself) and reiterated their view that only pulverised or incinerated refuse would be acceptable for disposal within this rural district, that the installation of a pulverisation plant within the District would be opposed, and that it was envisaged that the Council would not be a party to any joint arrangements for refuse disposal.

The following schedule shows collection days throughout the District as from April, 1972.

WEEKLY SERVICE THE SCHEDULE

MONDAY—

Parish of Ringwood (Lighting Area)

Addison Square, Beechcroft Lane, Bickerley, Broadshard Lane, Brooks Close, Cadogan Road, Carvers Lane, Christchurch Road, The Close, Cloughs Road, College Road, Collins Lane, Coniston Road, Coxstone Lane, Croft Estate, Denholm Estate, Deweys Lane, Duck Island Lane, Eastfield Lane, Eastfield Court, East View Road, Ebenezer Lane, Edwina Close, Elmsdown Court, Fairlie, Fairlie Park, Fieldway, Forestside Gardens, Friday's Cross, Gardner Road, Gipsy Lane, Gorley Road, Gravel Lane, Green Lane, Guy's Close, Hampton Drive, High Street, Highfield Avenue, Highfield Drive, Highfield Road, Hightown Gardens, Hightown Road, Hiltom Road, Hurst Corner, Hurst Road, Keppel Close, Kings Arms Lane, Kings Arms Row, Kingsbury Lane, Linden Court, Linden Gardens, Link Road, London Tavern Triangle, Lumby Drive, Lynes Lane, Manor Gardens, Manor Road,

Manor Court, Market Place, Meadow Close, Meadow Road, Meadow Way, Meeting House Lane, Merryweather Estate, Merton Grove, Middle Lane, Middleton Road, Moortown, Morant Road, Mount Pleasant, Mount Park Estate, New Road, New Street, North Poulner Road, North Poulner Caravan Site, North Poulner Junior and Infant Schools, Northfield Road, Northumberland Court, Nursery Road, Oak Lane, Old Barn, Old Stacks Gardens, Orchard Close, Parsonage Barn Lane, Poplar Crescent, Poplar Way, Pound Close, Poulner Park, Queensway, Quomp, Redwood Close, Riverside, Salisbury Road, School Lane, Seymour Road, Southampton Road, Southfield, Spittlefields, Star Lane, Strides Lane, Top Lane, Wanstead Close, Wessex Estate, Wessex Road, West Street, Westbury Road, Winston Way, Woodford Close, Woodstock Lane.

Parish of Ringwood (Non-Lighting Area)
covering A.31, Bridges, Salisbury Road.

TUESDAY—

Parish of Ringwood (Lighting Area)—

Hampshire Hatches Lane and Hightown Road Junior School.

Parish of Ringwood (Non-Lighting Area)

covering the Areas Bagnum, Bisterne, Crow, Crow Arch Lane, Crow Lane, Crow Hill, Forest Edge Road, Hangersley, Hangersley Hill, Hightown, Hightown Hill, Kingston, Kingston Common, Lane End, Merryweather Farm, Narrow Lane, Nouale Lane, Picket Hill, Poulner, Poulner Hill, Sandford, Woodend Road.

Parish of Burley

Parish of Ellingham

Parish of Harbridge and Ibsley

together with Part of the

Parish of Fordingbridge (Non-Lighting)

covering the areas Furze Hill, Gorley Cross and North Gorley Road from Gorley Cross to the rear of "The Motorist".

WEDNESDAY—

Parish of Fordingbridge (Lighting Area) and

Parish of Fordingbridge (Non-Lighting Area)

but excluding those areas mentioned above in which collections are made on Tuesday.

Parish of Breamore

Parish of Rockbourne

Parish of Whitsbury

THURSDAY—

Parish of Hale

Parish of Hurn

Parish of St. Leonards and St. Ives

and Part of the

Parish of Sopley

which includes Matcham's Lane, Sopley Common, Avon Causeway and the Village of Avon, Court Farm, Sopley Village and Sopley Park, Tyrrell's Ford.

Parish of Woodgreen

FRIDAY—

Parish of Damerham

Parish of Martin

Parish of Christchurch East

and that Part of the

Parish of Sopley comprising

Derritt Lane, Burnt House Lane, Ripley, North Ripley, Shirley, Shirley Common and Avon Tyrrell.

Salvage

The bulk collected was approximately the same as in 1970, but prices from merchants were reduced by 12½% from 1st April. Total sales realised £885.32 compared with £907.22 in the previous year. In parallel with the Incentive Bonus Scheme and the introduction of a weekly refuse collection service throughout the District, the Council offered a further incentive to the refuse collection staff and other employees concerned in the salvage scheme by increasing the salvage bonus from between 5% and 10% to 33⅓% of sales of salvaged materials, to take effect from 1st January, 1971; 33 employees shared the bonus of £295.10.

A further £315.00 was received from tradesmen for special collections of cardboard cartons, packaging materials, etc.

Details of salvage sold are shown in the following summary: —

				Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	(Tonnes)		£
							(Kilograms)		
<i>Waste Paper</i>									
	Clean newspaper	.	.	124	19	1	127 81		659.41
	Baled card	.	.	17	6	2	17 620		93.85
	Mixed waste paper	.	.	4	17	1	4 945		13.57
<i>Textiles</i>									
	Rags	.	.	7	18	3	8 72		91.71
<i>Metals</i>									
	Mixed steel	.	.	1	16	3	1 869		11.03
	Irony aluminium	.	.		6	0	305		12.00
	Mixed light and oversize scrap	.	.		18	3	953		3.75
				158	3	1	160 845		£885.32

Street Cleansing

The Council carried out street cleansing in respect of almost 25½ miles of publicly repairable roads in Ringwood and Fordingbridge as follows: —

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge	Total
Trunk Roads	1.48	—	1.48
Class I Roads	0.54	0.89	1.43
Class II Roads	1.90	1.29	3.19
Class III Roads	2.08	1.19	3.27
Unclassified	12.72	3.30	16.02
	18.72	6.67	25.39

The cost of cleansing these roads (some £5,600.00 annually) is normally reimbursed by the County Council.

A satisfactory conclusion was not reached regarding the dispute between this Council and the County Council in respect of payment for April/June, 1968, which was withheld by the County Council and where the then Ministry of Housing and Local Government was asked to arbitrate; the Secretary of State determined that the County Council should contribute 50% of the expenses incurred by this Council under normal conditions and rather more for the three month

period in dispute. The County Council then proposed that all street cleansing should be undertaken by that Council, and should be by mechanical methods, hand-sweeping being discontinued, and the matter is still under discussion.

Litter

The Council operates a full-time litter collection service which besides the emptying of receptacles includes picking up litter dumped on verges and picnic spots; 54 receptacles are sited throughout the District. A contribution at the rate of £11.25 per week in the summer months and £2.25 in the winter months is made by the County Council in respect of collections at lay-byes, etc.

The Council exhibited posters and co-operated with the "Keep Britain Tidy" Group.

STAFF — MANUAL WORKERS

The present labour force of men employed by the Council is 38, as follows: —

1	Foreman/Mechanic;
1	Fitter;
6	Drivers;
13	Loaders;
1	Dump Attendant;
1	Mechanical Sweeper Driver;
3	Street Sweepers;
1	Litter Collector;
2	Estate Maintenance Workers;
1	Sewage Works Foreman;
5	Sewerage Workers;
1	Rodent Operative;
1	Gardener (part-time); and
1	Car Park Attendant (part-time).

Following the Council's agreement in principle in 1969 to the requirement of the National Joint Council that an Incentive Bonus Scheme be introduced by 1972, Consultants were engaged and produced schemes which became effective from 19th April. The scheme involving the refuse collection crews, dump attendant and vehicle fitter was designed to give a weekly kerbside collection throughout the District with no increase in manpower or in the number of refuse collection vehicles. Completion of a specified daily round qualifies each member of a refuse collection crew for a $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ bonus on the basic payment for 8 hours; additionally, the men are on a "task and finish" scheme whereby, if not on stand-by duty, the crews go home on completion of their daily rounds. In the case of street sweeping and litter collection, the emphasis is on achieving maximum utilisation of the small labour force and full control of operations by the use of specified daily schedules; a bonus of $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ can be earned by these employees for satisfactory performance.

The scheme applied to the sewage works operatives is designed primarily to ensure that (a) all preventive maintenance jobs, both in the main works and outlying installations, are specified in detail together with the desired frequency of execution and (b) all work performed is monitored so that supervision can effectively retain control of all the diverse operations carried out. Weekly detailed maintenance and work record schedules are displayed at each installation and are updated by operatives on completion of each task. The bonus earned, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % on basic rates, is in return for increased productivity by the existing small staff by their carrying out additional work on new installations at Ringwood and on the Burley sewerage scheme.

As a provisional measure, bonus payments are also being made to the two employees engaged on estate maintenance, as for other Council employees, pending the completion of detailed work schedules. These employees are frequently called upon as relief crews for refuse collection.

A special scheme was introduced for the Foreman/Mechanic and the Sewage Works Foreman. A viable scheme could not be produced for the Rodent Operative and the part-time employees.

VEHICLES

The Council's fleet of vehicles consists of the following: —

<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Purchased</i>
Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	Refuse Collection	50 cu. yds.	Oct., 1971
Another	Refuse Collection	50 cu. yds.	Jan., 1971
Another	Refuse Collection	50 cu. yds.	Apr., 1966
Another	Refuse Collection	50 cu. yds.	Dec., 1965
Another	Refuse Collection	35 cu. yds.	Apr., 1963
Shelvoke and Drewry Freighter with power press	Refuse Collection	20/25 cu. yds.	May, 1961
Shelvoke and Drewry Freighter (reserve)	Refuse Collection	16/18 cu. yds.	Jan., 1960
Karrier Bantam Freighter	Refuse Collection	10 cu. yds.	Sep., 1970
Austin/Morris Van	Refuse Collection	10 cwts.	Jun., 1971
Another	Sewerage	10 cwts.	Apr., 1971
Morris Van	Litter Collection	10 cwts.	Mar., 1969
Another	Sewerage	10 cwts.	Mar., 1969
Another	Sewerage	10 cwts.	Mar., 1969
Commer Van	Housing Estate Maintenance	25 cwts.	July 1966
Another	Rodent Control	5 cwts.	May, 1966
Blaw Knox Mechanical Street Sweeper	—	—	May, 1970
Massey Ferguson Tractor	Ringwood Sewerage	—	Apr., 1966
Bray BL430 Tractor	Refuse Disposal	—	Feb., 1964
Fordson Major Tractor	Sewerage and Refuse Disposal	—	Jun., 1960

The 16/18 cubic yard freighter of 1958 manufacture was replaced by a 50 cubic yard Pakamatic and the two oldest vans by Austin/Morris 10 cwts. vehicles. Refuse collection vehicles are not now exempted from the Plating and Testing Regulations, which come into effect in April, 1972, and it was agreed that the last of the 16/18 cubic yard vehicles, a 1960 model now used as reserve, should be replaced by another 50 cubic yard Pakamatic, so that all freighters will comply with the Regulations without any modification being necessary.

CAR PARKS

The surfaced car park at The Furlong, Ringwood has accommodation for 226 cars, 13 lorries or coaches and 20 bicycles, and there is temporary accommodation for 300 cars on the 3.8 acres of grassland adjoining, which this Council holds on licence from the County Council; the revised siting of the Poulner Lane Diversion of Trunk Road A.31 will affect this area. A proposal that an illuminated clock, information map and advertisement stand should be sited on the car park was not agreed, following objections from the Parish Council.

The Planning application made in September, 1969 in respect of parking on approximately 1.15 acres in the rear of the Market Place, Ringwood shown as a car park on the Draft Town Centre Plan, with access to The Bickerley, remained deferred, but the Divisional Planning Officer suggested that it should be amended to include that section of the proposed service road between the Market Place at its western end and Deweys Lane to the east; this would involve the acquisition and demolition of a building, possibly against the wishes of the owner. The Divisional Planning Officer was informed that the Council was of the opinion that Planning permission should be granted for the development as already proposed, subject to the alignment of the northern boundary to make it coincide with the proposed service road, and that the question of improving the access and acquiring and demolishing property should be the subject of negotiations between the owners and the County Council.

An approach was made to the Planning Authority regarding the possible use of the site of the Council Depot in Christchurch Road as a car park, the Depot being re-sited on land adjoining the Sewage Disposal Works, but that Authority was not in favour of either of these moves; consideration of the provision of car parking spaces in the southern area of Ringwood was therefore deferred until the November, 1972 meeting of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee, having regard to this and to the proposals for the reorganisation of local government. No further progress was made regarding the proposed widening of Bickerley Road by the County Council, which this Council has approved in principle but where the Parish Council is not in favour, nor with the proposal to utilise the southern end of the disused railway line, which is being purchased by the County Council.

At Roundhill, Fordingbridge, accommodation exists for 165 cars and 2 coaches together with reserved areas for motor cycles and bicycles. A Planning application was made for the construction of a car park on a site between the High Street and the river, which is scheduled for car parking in the Township Plan, and negotiations for purchase of the site are continuing.

Planning permission for a limited period of 5 years was obtained in respect of land extending to approximately one third of an acre at the rear of the shopping centre at Brangsgore, indicated as a site for car parking on the Brangsgore Village Plan, and negotiations for purchase were commenced.

Negotiations are still in hand with the Parish Council and the Planning Authority in respect of a site at Burley for car parking and the erection of public conveniences, but little progress was made during the year.

It was not possible to reach agreement with the Planning Authority, the Highway Authority and the owners regarding the provision of a car park on part of Burton Green, Burton and the Council resolved to take no further action with this project.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The route of the Poulner Lane Diversion of the A.31 Trunk Road will necessitate the demolition of the existing public conveniences at The Furlong car park, Ringwood; until the result of the Public Inquiry is known it is not possible to determine a new site for the conveniences.

The Council has already agreed in principle to erect conveniences at Burley, and a Planning application was made in respect of a site at the rear of The Queen's Head Hotel, in association with a future car park.

STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING

The Council agreed that the words "No Through Road" should be added to future street nameplates serving cul-de-sacs.

Existing roads named	.	.	.	—	6
Existing roads numbered	.	.	.	—	21
New roads named	.	.	.	—	4
New roads numbered	.	.	.	—	3

MAINTENANCE OF OPEN SPACES ON PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES

The Council has agreed in principle to take over and maintain in perpetuity open spaces and landscaped areas on private housing estates, subject to a capital payment by the developers, each application to be considered on its merits. Two applications were received, both being agreed subject to conditions.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT, PETROLEUM MIXTURES AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

Number of premises on register	.	.	.	.	105	
Number of petroleum licences	.	.	.	.	104	(292,525 gallons)
Number of mixture licences	.	.	.	.	4	(4,150 gallons)
Number of carbide licences	.	.	.	.	1	(6,720 lbs.)

The Council is responsible for seeing that petroleum spirit, mixtures, etc. is stored or carried in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, the Petroleum Spirit (Motor Vehicles etc.) Regulations, the Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929 and the Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957.

All electrically operated petrol pumps and installations are required to comply with the recommendations contained in the Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions for the Storage of Petroleum Spirit issued by the Home Office.

There are two self-service petrol pumps in the District, to which special licensing conditions apply.

Three hundred and seventy-six visits and inspections were made.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

These Regulations, which came into operation on the 1st February, 1966, are uniform throughout the whole country.

Number of plans received	1,052
Number of plans approved	969
Number of plans rejected	51
Number of plans "No objection"	20
Number of plans withdrawn	34

Classification of deposited plans is as follows: —

176 plans in respect of 679 dwellings;
499 plans in respect of alterations and additions;
119 plans in respect of 124 garages;
125 plans in respect of 193 drainage works;
39 plans in respect of 47 agricultural buildings;
47 plans in respect of 50 miscellaneous buildings;
7 plans in respect of 7 factory buildings;
6 plans in respect of conversions resulting in 14 units of accommodation;
34 plans withdrawn.

Inspections made: —

Commencement	518
Foundations	1,239
Oversite	461
Damp proof courses	328
Water tests to drains	1,185
Completed works	821
Sewer connections	170
Contraventions	193
Miscellaneous	2,521
	<hr/>
	7,436
	<hr/>

Contraventions: —

Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936

Section 65	4 Notices served;
	4 Notices complied with.
Informal	168 Notices served in respect of
	263 minor contraventions.

The Council has power to relax Regulations in certain cases, others must be referred to the Department of the Environment; 3 applications for relaxation were so referred, the Council having no objection, all relating to structural fire precautions to roofs, and all were approved. The Council approved relaxation in 15 cases, relating to zones of open space, cesspool dimensions, room heights, boiler flues and soil and waste pipes.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a Development Company for failure to submit written notices as required by the Regulations. The case was successful, the defendants being fined, although no costs were awarded.

NEW STREET BYELAWS

22 plans were received and six visits and inspections made in connection with works of laying out new streets.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS

Fieldway, Gipsy Lane, Oak Lane, Beechcroft Lane, Orchard Close, Eastview Road and Hiltom Road, Ringwood, were made up and taken over by the County Council as highways maintainable at the public expense; Edwina Close and Poulner Park, Ringwood, together with the roads on the Burgate Estate, Fordingbridge, and Bushells Farm, Fordingbridge, privately developed estates, were also taken over.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

Development applications are received by my Department, which also maintains the Planning Register and Planning Index Maps. Enquirers are advised on Planning matters generally and inspections made on behalf of the Planning Authority, to whom reports are furnished on known contraventions.

1,019 Planning applications were received and nine hundred and ninety-seven visits and inspections made.

The County Council published the revised draft proposals for the Ringwood Town Centre Map, which were accepted by the Council, although it was agreed that the County be asked to have regard to the possible use of the old railway line to serve the industrial area. A public meeting was held, following which the County Planning Officer submitted a schedule of objections, together with his observations thereon, for the Council's consideration and comment, touching upon car parking, over-production of shops, the proposed site for the new Fire Station, parking of school 'buses in Quomp, public access to the river, the future use of the Regal Cinema and the proposed new relief road.

The Council has appointed a firm of Consultants and also a firm of specialist Solicitors to advise them regarding Ringwood Town Centre Redevelopment. A draft Developers' Brief was prepared and approved, and a Sub-Committee formed to consider interim reports in detail; observations were received from the Ringwood Society and the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Trades' Council. The Parish Council

convened a meeting to consider the future use of the Regal Cinema, where Planning permission to demolish and re-develop as a super-market had been refused; this Council was represented at the Public Inquiry held following the appeal against this refusal and supported the decision on the grounds that the building should be designated as a Public Hall. Approval was given in principle that the Council purchase the Cinema for such use and that the County Council and the Department of the Environment be approached regarding payment of grants.

The Council has agreed in principle to the proposals of a development company for a shopping precinct to the north of Fordingbridge High Street, involving an exchange of land for part of the Council's car park; this proposal was amended following changes in the established Fordingbridge Township Plan, which are now under consideration by the Planning Authority. It was agreed that the Planning Authority should be asked to allocate further land in Fordingbridge for industrial use.

The draft Local Plan for St. Leonards and St. Ives was published and a public meeting held; the Council agreed with the Development Sub-Committee that objection should be lodged on two points, in that the Grange Estate, lying to the south of Trunk Road A.31, and the two vacant areas of land on the Ashley Drive Estate should all be allocated for residential development. It was considered that that part of the Old Refuse Dump at Ashley, zoned in the Town Map for residential development, should be re-designated as a public open space, and the County Council was informed of this Council's opinion; the St. Leonards and St. Ives Parish Council registered this land under the Commons Registration Act, 1965, but this Council objected to such registration.

HIGHWAYS

The County Council reported that they had received a considerable number of objections to the Draft Orders and Compulsory Purchase Orders relating to the Poulner Lane Diversion of Trunk Road A.31, and little progress had been made; the Council has already agreed to raise no objection to these proposals, and decided to send a representative to the Public Inquiry to be held in January, 1972, to give evidence to this effect, but to include a reference to the need for a new road along the former railway line from the industrial area in Ringwood to the A.31 at Ashley.

DIVERSION OF FOOTPATHS

No objection was raised to the diversion of short lengths of foot-path at Fordingbridge, Hurn and Sandford, Ringwood.

Four visits and inspections were made.

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

No Statutory action was taken.

4 informal Notices were served.

Twenty-six visits and inspections were made.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

Quarterly returns of road accidents were received from the Chief Constable of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, showing a total of 231 injury accidents and 350 casualties (11 fatal) in this Rural District for the year, compared with 202 and 314 (9 fatal) in the previous year, and giving a breakdown of causes, vehicles and fatal or non-fatal casualties in separate classes of road users.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (HISTORIC BUILDINGS) ACT, 1962

No new applications for Grant were received. An application in respect of Old House, Fordingbridge, deferred in 1970 for inspection by a Sub-Committee, was refused.

HOUSING SITES

Development consisting of sixteen 3-bedroomed houses with twenty-seven garages on land adjoining the existing estate at Sandy Plot, Burton, for which a tender of £59,679 10s. 3d. was accepted and which commenced in March, 1970, was completed; the remaining twelve of the twenty 1-bedroomed flats for aged persons at Albion Road, Fordingbridge, for which a tender of £50,274.00 was accepted and which were commenced in February, 1970, were also completed. Work continued on a contract for twenty-five 3-bedroomed houses and eight one-bedroomed flats at Hightown Road and two 3-bedroomed houses at Winston Way, Ringwood, for which a tender of £119,997 2s. 2d. was accepted and where works commenced in November, 1970, and works commenced in June on the construction of eight 2-bed-roomed bungalows and four 3-bedroomed houses at West Park Lane, Damerham, for which a tender of £44,920.00 was accepted. Works also commenced on the erection of eleven 3-bedroomed houses and four 2-bedroomed bungalows on sites adjoining Glenives Close and The Close, St. Ives, for which a tender of £74,423.00 was accepted; a further plot of land adjoining Glenives Close was offered for sale to the Council, Planning consent obtained for an additional pair of 3-bedroomed houses and a tender of £9,989.00 accepted.

Detailed Planning consent was obtained and a tender of £41,875.00 accepted for the erection of ten 2-bedroomed bungalows on the site of the former pre-fabricated bungalows at Footners Lane, Burton; detailed Planning consent was also obtained for four 3-bedroomed houses and two 2-bedroomed bungalows on land adjoining Meadow Close and for six 2-bedroomed bungalows on the site of the former pre-fabricated bungalows at Warnes Lane, Burley, and tenders were invited for this development as one contract. Outline Planning consent was obtained for the erection of five pairs of semi-detached dwellings on land now the gardens of Council dwellings in Waverley Road, Fordingbridge, but where it is necessary to purchase extra land for access purposes; negotiations are still in hand regarding the purchase of 4 acres of land at Ringwood Road, Bransgore, where the Council's outline Planning application stands deferred pending the

provision of a temporary access road. Following the purchase of some 6.32 acres at Elm Farm, Hightown, Ringwood, outline Planning permission was obtained, a layout agreed for the erection of 50 houses and 16 flats and a detailed Planning application made; this development is included in the 1972 Housing Programme, as is the erection of 8 dwellings at the rear of St. George's Cottages, Hale, where the layout submitted has not yet received Planning approval. The Housing Committee considered the use to be made of some 5½ acres of land already in the Council's ownership at Martin, where outline Planning permission is valid until March 31st, 1972, and where it was suggested that part should be developed by the Council and part sold for private development.

The Council owns a site of 2.02 acres at Alexandra Road, Fordingbridge, another of .27 acres at Whipps Hill, Rockbourne, and a third of .88 acres at the rear of St. George's Road, Fordingbridge, where outline Planning permission for the erection of 18 aged persons' dwellings was renewed. No further action was taken regarding land to the south of Wessex Estate, Ringwood, which is in three separate ownerships and was offered to the Council for sale in 1965, where a tentative layout providing for 23 dwellings has been approved in principle and where the line of the A.31 Trunk Road, which affects this site, has only recently been decided. The Council considered the purchase and re-development of the ex-toy factory at Burley, but following consultations with the Divisional Planning Officer it was not possible to agree a scheme, and no further action was taken.

Thirty-two visits were made regarding housing sites, and one hundred and two in respect of works in progress.

HOUSING PROGRAMME

There is a total of 96 dwellings accepted by the Department of the Environment for erection in 1972, programmed as follows:—

<i>Balance of 1971 Programme</i>			
Warnes Lane, Burley	.	.	6
Meadow Close, Burley	.	.	6
Land adjoining St. George's Cottages, Hale	.	.	8
			—
<i>New Development</i>			
Hightown Elm, Ringwood	.	.	66
Land off Penny's Lane, Fordingbridge	.	.	10
			—
			76 dwellings
			—
			96 dwellings

ESTATE MAINTENANCE

At the 31st December, 1971 the Council had a total of 1,510 occupied dwellings, made up as follows:—

Permanent Houses, including 128 aged persons' flats	1,500
Pre-fabricated Bungalows	10
	—
	1,510

The Council has erected a total of 529 garages which are let at 50p per week; garages are let to persons other than Council tenants where they are available.

The permanent houses, garages and pre-fabricated bungalows are sited as follows: —

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Pre-fabricated</i>	<i>Garages</i>
Breamore	St. George's Cottages . . .	4		
Burley	Campden House . . .	2		1
	Chapel Haye . . .	10		
	Meadow Close . . .	20		10
	Warnes Lane . . .	35		7
Christchurch	Meyrick Close, Bransgore . .	18		15
East	Ringwood Road, Bransgore . .	4		
	Westbury Close, Bransgore . .	32		
	Burton Park, Burton . . .	75		43
	Footners Lane, Burton . . .	14	4	7
	Jopps Corner, Burton . . .	7		4
	Sandy Plot, Burton . . .	72		43
	Burton Green . . .	4		
	Neacroft . . .	3		
	Brick Lane, Thorneyhill . . .	6		
	Burley Road, Thorneyhill . .	14		
	Whitelands, Thorneyhill . .	7		
Damerham	High Street . . .	6		
	South End . . .	4		
	West Park Lane . . .	23		
Ellingham	Blashford . . .	4		
Fordingbridge	Albion Road . . .	20		
	The Bartons . . .	25		9
	Green Lane . . .	10		
	Jubilee Close . . .	16		6
	Lower Bartons . . .	28		
	Parsonage Close . . .	14		19
	Penny's Close, Penny's Lane, Penny's Crescent . . .	60		28
	Picket Close . . .	54		9
	Roundhill . . .	2		
	St. George's Road . . .	14		
	Salisbury Road . . .	6		
	Tinkers Cross . . .	2		
	Waverley Road . . .	26		
Hale	St. George's Cottages . . .	14		
Harbridge and Ibsley	Brookside . . .	6		
Hurn	Moors Close . . .	54		22
Martin	Downview Road . . .	8		
	St. George's Cottages . . .	12		
	Townsend . . .	16		
Ringwood	55, The Bickerley . . .	1		
	58/68, Christchurch Road . .	6		
	Clark's Close . . .	18		2
	Cloughs Road . . .	20		4
	Eastfield Lane . . .	7		7
	Fairlie Estate . . .	3		

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Pre-fabricated</i>	<i>Garages</i>
	Fairlie Park	36		10
	Hightown	8		
	Hurst Road	42		6
	Manor Road	35		15
	Manor Road/Parsonage Barn Lane	10		5
	Merryweather	24		
	Moortown	14		7
	Old Barn Close	19		
	Poplar Crescent	37		
	Poplar Way	53		33
	Queensway	71		24
	Southampton Road	1		
	Spittlefields	79		105
	Wessex Estate	92		42
	Winston Way	48		15
	Woodstock Lane	2		
Rockbourne	Bourne Cottages	6		
	Minty's Hill	6		
	Whipps Hill	1		
Sopley	Avon	4		
	Burnt House Lane, Bransgore . .	20		7
	Derritt Lane, Bransgore	10		10
	Ripley	2		
St. Leonards and St. Ives	Ashley	4		
	The Close	—	6	
	Glenives Close	10		
	Old School	1		
	Woolsbridge Road	16		
Whitsbury	Lower Grove	17		8
Woodgreen	Hill Close	12		
	St. George's Cottages	14		6

The maintenance of these estates entailed a total of six thousand, six hundred and thirty-six visits and inspections as follows: —

Permanent Houses	6,555
Pre-fabricated Bungalows	40
Sewage disposal	26
Other Council property	15
	<hr/> 6,636 <hr/>

One hundred and seventy-three visits and inspections were made in respect of the maintenance of Council Caravan Sites.

Fourteen enquiries were received from tenants interested in purchasing the dwelling in which they lived; one sale was completed and negotiations are proceeding in two other cases.

Tenders amounting to £7,741.00 were accepted for external decorating works to 232 dwellings; it was found necessary to defer wall treatment in some cases for further consultation with paint manufacturers. Internal decorating works were carried out at a cost of £1,974.50 to 94 dwellings occupied by aged or infirm tenants. 943 post-war dwellings have now been brought up to a minimum standard for electrical installations; it was agreed that installations in the

111 pre-war dwellings should be entirely renewed, over a period of two years, and a tender of £4,194.50 for 57 dwellings in the northern Parishes was accepted. A tender of £3,621.00 was accepted for the replacement of 51 "Alico" ranges. A further 23 immersion heaters were installed at tenants' requests, making a total of 760 to date, a charge of 2½p per week being made to the tenant; the Southern Electricity Board raised their charges from £10.00 to £14.50 for installations where complete wiring was required and from £8.00 to £10.00 for installations where it was not. A second cattle grid was provided at Warnes Lane, Burley, a service road at Sandy Plot, Burton at a cost of £570.00 and a rear access road at Chapel Haye, Burley. Street lighting to roadway standard was installed at Moors Close, Hurn, at a cost of £1,289.00. The County Council, who had in 1970 insisted that Warnes Lane, Burley be provided with street lighting to roadway standard before they would take it over as publicly maintainable, agreed that future standards should be left to the discretion of the local authority. Fencing works were carried out at a cost of £915.00 to Council dwellings at Thorneyhill to protect the gardens from Forest animals; a tender of £1,065.25 was accepted for filling and levelling land at Sandy Plot, Burton for a play area and fencing erected at a cost of £347.00. The usual programme of tree planting on the new estates with replacement of dead trees on existing estates was undertaken.

It was agreed in principle that, with the aid of Grants available, the 111 pre-war dwellings should be improved to present day standards, and a tender of £8,192.25 was accepted for the first three, in Fordingbridge.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT SMALL DWELLINGS (ACQUISITION) ACT

One hundred and thirty-nine visits and inspections were made in connection with a total of 186 dwellings constructed or purchased with assistance under these Acts since 1941.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was found necessary to institute proceedings as follows:—

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Bisterne Estate Trust	Case pending.
Ringwood Several Fishery	Case pending.
Mr. F. C. Tanner (case from 1968)	Deferred for further year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Sections 2 and 113

Messrs. Home Counties Dairies Ltd. (case from 1970).	Fined £15.00 with £10.00 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. The Sansinena Company Limited (case from 1970).	Fined £25.00 with £10.50 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. S. Daniels and Company Limited.	Fined £15.00 with £10.00 Advocate's fee.
Mr. K. and Mrs. B. Rymer	Fined £15.00 with £5.00 costs.
Messrs. Pricerite Limited.	Warranty pleaded, Messrs. W. L. Miller and Son fined £30.00 with £15.00 Advocate's fee and £15.00 costs.

Messrs. Motcombe Bakeries Limited.	Fined £20.00 with £5.00 Advocate's fee.
Mr. G. A. Fearnley	Fined £10.00 with £7.00 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. Baxters (Butchers) Limited.	Fined £20.00 with £5.00 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. Unigate Limited.	Fined £15.00 with £7.00 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. Sol Cafe Limited.	Fined £20.00 with £5.00 Advocate's fee.
Messrs. The Co-Operative Retail Services Limited.	Case dismissed.
<i>Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959</i>	
Messrs. Unigate Limited	Fined £20.00 with £5.00 Advocate's fee.
<i>Building Regulations, 1965</i>	
Messrs. Flag Developments Limited.	Fined £5.00, no costs awarded.

The Council took up with their Solicitor the question of the amount of costs awarded in successful prosecutions, which are never enough to cover legal charges, analyst's fees and other expenses, the balance falling on the ratepayer; our Solicitor referred it to his local Law Society, who replied that costs were within the discretion of the Magistrates, but that they were in communication with the Ringwood Magistrates on this point.

Fifty-five visits were made.

STAFF

In addition to the officers engaged on Public Health the following technical officers are engaged on works in connection with New Streets and Buildings, Town and Country Planning, Housing Estate Maintenance etc.:—

D. W. Parnaby, *MUN.B.I., Chief Building Control Officer;*
 F. C. Lewington, *MUN.B.I., Senior District Building Inspector;*
 M. C. Bryant, *MUN.B.I., District Building Inspector;*
 R. C. Curtis, *District Building Inspector;*
 K. A. C. Treasure, *Estate Maintenance Assistant;*
 T. C. Bartram, *Estate Maintenance Assistant.*

Mr. P. E. Gardner, Additional Public Health Inspector, resigned during the year and was replaced by Mr. D. Roe, and Mr. R. Breese, Junior Building Inspector, resigned and was replaced by Mr. Curtis. Miss R. Barker, a shorthand-typist in my Department for 24 years, retired, and Miss B. C. Smith was appointed.

CONCLUSION

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, Mr. A. H. Hale and Dr. D. J. N. McNab for their confidence and support, and the staff of my Department for their co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

RONALD A. UPSTONE

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

